

992.h.17.
2

2

T H E
O D D I T Y,
A N H U M O U R O U S
P O E M,

Being a L O V E L E T T E R from a
Grub-street P O E T to his *Sweet-heart* ;

Consisting of no less than F O U R H U N D R E D
Lines, in *one* continued Rhyme, all end-
ing in *ation* ; in which, only *one* Word
is used *twice* throughout the *whole* P O E M,
and even *that*, in two *different* senses.—

By T A N T A R A B O B U S, Great Grandson to
P E R R I W I G D U M F U N N I D O S.—

N. B. This is a *New* kind of Entertainment for
the *Christmas*, *Easter*, or *Whitsun*-Holidays, to exer-
cise the Memories of all pretty M A S T E R S and
M I S S E S, and even T H O S E of *Five* or *Six* Feet high.

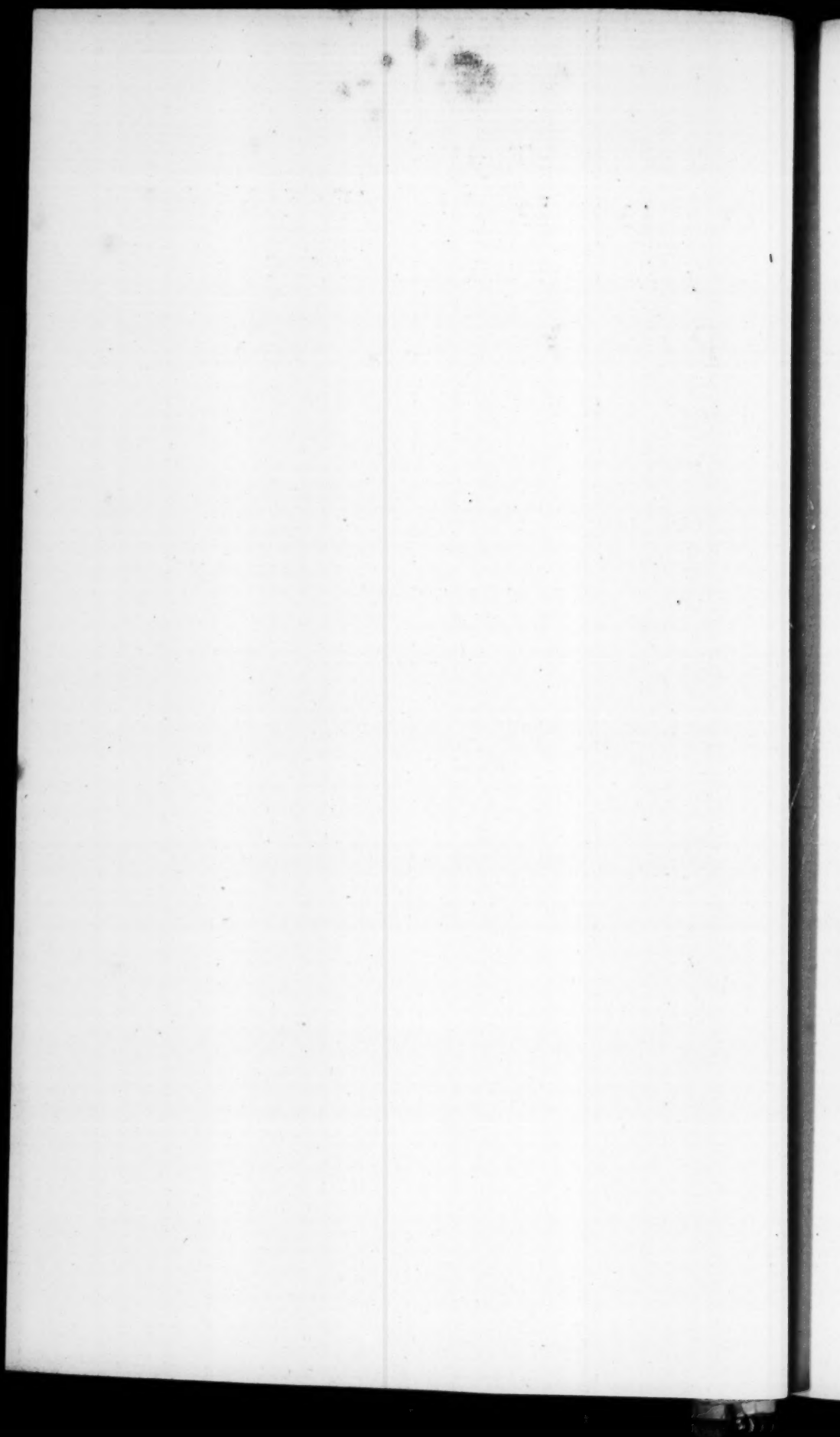
L O N D O N :

Printed for J. B E W and G. A L L E N, Pater-noster-row,
and W. N I C O L L, St. Paul's Church-yard.

(Enter'd at STATIONERS-HALL) —

(Price One Shilling)

MDCCLXXVI.—



T H E
D E D I C A T I O N .

'Tis plain, that this short *Dedication*
Suits none so pat for *Application*,
As THE whole, honest BRITISH NATION. }

TO BRITANNIA.---

Honour'd Madam!

I Don't at all doubt your maternal tenderness and affection in giving Me leave to address Myself to you, on account of this jingling *Bagatelle*. I must, first of all, then, observe to your *Children*, my kind and gentle

A 2

Readers,

Readers, “ That by the falling out of the novelty and singularity of *YOUR Name* (inclusively consider’d) it so falls in with the *peculiarity* of the *POEM*, as, most fortunately for *Me*, to suit No One so well as *YOURSELF*. They, therefore, can, by no means, wonder at this my Address to *YOU*, in particular, (tho’ it is, in effect, to *THEMSELVES* in general) on so very uncommon a *Plan* for a *POEM*. I have brought You, You see, a very considerable addition to your Family to take care of, consisting of no less than *Four Hundred*—*BASTARDS* the World can’t say, as the poor, but honest *Brats* are All well known by my Brother *Shrubs* of *Parnassus* and *Blossoms* of *Helicon*, to be, if not All, your *genuine*, at least, your truly-adopted and acknowledg’d *PROGENY*. If They should prove burdensome to You to maintain, it is only sending them to that worthy and generous *Father*, *SIR CHARLES*, at the *Foundling-Hospital*: which, (like *The Press* and *Tyburn*) refuses Nobody.

Under

Under the strength of YOUR Name, Good MOTHER! I prognosticate my success with my Brethren, whose Candour and Generosity (in general) I have so often had the honour and pleasure to experience; and as to my old *Friends* and Brother *Coblers*, THE REVIEWERS, (in particular) I am sure of *their* giving it a good touch with their *Awl* in their next Month's Review, when They consider our mutual Obligations: as they would scorn to shoot out their *Porcupine Quills* (the dread of all *poor* Authors and Poets!) at ONE, who, They well know, has always admired their *superiour Learning, Honesty*, and *dis-interestedness*, and never fail'd to extoll Them for those very valuable Qualities!— Besides, MADAM—*They* would be ashamed to strike their *puissant Talons* at a mere *Chicken* in Poetry; as They would get no more honour by it, than for so many CORMORANTS to come fousing down upon a *Wren*; and, therefore, he now takes his humble and dutifull leave both of YOUR LADYSHIP and THEM, with the four following Lines.—

Seven Cities once strove for the great Ho-
MER's birth,

Whereas *I*, the *worst* Poet e'er seen upon
earth!

Can boast of much more more! since, with
great Consolation,

I write under the shield of no less than
A NATION!—

and am, my dear and ever-honour'd Mo-
THER! with all due respect, and best wishes
for your health and happiness, (whether in
your *serious* or *laughing* hours) your typical,
topical, tropical, chymical, comical, jing-
ling, ironical, whimsical, nonsensical, but
very dutifull *Son*, and your Children's very
faithful and most obliged, humble, *Servant*,

TANTARABOBUS.—

Dated from my *Observatory*
over the Upper Gallery of *St.*
Paul's Cupola.-----New-Year's
Day, One Thousand, Seven
Hundred, and FAST ASLEEP! -

THE

T H E P R E F A C E.

TH E following very singular, and
humourous POEM, falling, as luckily,
as accidentally, into the *Editor's* hands, some
time ago: he thought that he could not do
a more acceptable piece of service to his
Readers, in order to brighten up their minds,
and whet their Appetites for some good
Christmas Fare this dark and gloomy Season,
than by re-publishing it for their amusement
and entertainment.—He, accordingly, pre-
sents Them with a NEW *Christmas-Pye* or
TWELFTH-CAKE (call it what They please)
towards making their Hearts merry, both
as to the *Mind* as well as the *Body* (which
is more than even *Horton* and *Birch's* *Pyes*
or *Cakes* can do) by a very considerable ad-
dition of some *Spices* and Confectionary *Wares*
of *his own*.—To drop the *Metaphor*.—It was
originally publish'd, under *this* Title, as a
Love-Letter from a *Sailor* to his Sweet-heart,
near *forty* Years ago, (by a very ingenious
Gentleman, who, as the *Editor* is inform'd,
is still living in *Hertfordshire*) consisting *then*
of only about 240 Lines: whereas *now*, it
contains 160 more, (and *one* over, which is
thrown into the bargain, added only for *Fun*)
and is considerably alter'd as well as enlarg'd
by the *Editor* with a *Dedication* and *Preface* to

the general satisfaction, he hopes, of his *Readers*. He only begs Them not to be so nice and severe as to criticize the different metre, or measure, of the Verses, as they are sometimes *long*, and at other times *short*; (by way of giving Them a little breathing-time) it being almost impossible in a Work of *this* sort to keep them always in due order, and exact proportion. He has, accordingly, endeavoured to introduce, as often as he properly could, what the *Poets* call the *Alexandrine* Verse, which is not only usefull, but also gracefull, in *Pindaric* Compositions, or *others* of an irregular Metre. *This* Verse is much longer than any of the rest: and as it always closes the *periodical* part of the Composition, (in order to give some little time before They begin again) it will be very easily perceiv'd (at those *Breaks*, or very short lines at the end) by the *unlearned* part of his Readers, who are supposed to be *less* conversant in such Poetical Compositions as *this*.—His *fair* Readers have *now* an opportunity of shewing their *Vivacity* and strength of *Memory* in getting this Poem *by heart*: which will be full as innocent a *Christmas Gambol*, or *Game*, as any thing he knows; and, he is sure, a much more advantageous one, by preventing a very great loss of their money and spirits by *Cards* at Lady *Roccambole's* Rout in *Portman-square*, with Lord
Whey-

P R E F A C E.

v

Whey-face, General *Standfast*, Lady Betty *Whisker*, and her sweet-scented Colonel *S****; or at the lively Widow *Squeezum's* in *St. Mary-Axe*, with Lieutenant-colonel *Stab-rag* of *Ludgate-hill*, Sir Humphry *Turtle*, Knight and Alderman, Miss Jenny *Starch*, the *Indico-merchant's* Daughter, Mrs. *Gudgeon*, the *Fishmonger's* Lady, and her witty Niece, Miss *Prue*;—And as to the *Macaronies*, *Critics*, *Conjurers*, and all the clever Fellows in and about *Town*, (tho' he will lay a wager of *Ten* to *One* on the *Ladies* side) the *Editor* has given *Them* also an opportunity of shewing *their* strength of Memory, if their *Brains* will bear it;—and, as an emolument and encouragement to *Them*, he gives this public Notice, “That his Bookfellers have an Order to take the *Person* (who can repeat this Poem by heart perfectly) to *Dolly's* Beef-steak House, where a Committee of six proper Judges will attend: treat him with a *Dinner*, and a Bottle of *Port*, and present him with a Draught for *One Hundred Guineas*, payable at sight, by either Messrs. *Æther* and *Vacuum*, Esquires, Bankers in *Nubibus*, or *Peter Nemo*, Esq; and Co. Bankers in *Utopia*: two of the *highest* Houses of Credit that can be, as they are well known to over-look the *Accounts*, *Directors*, and *Governor* even of *THE BANK itself*.”--The *Editor* is well aware, “That there is a great number of Words
ending

ending in *ation*, still left behind"; such as *Attenuation*, *Collation*, *Procuration*, *Retaliation*, and some *hundreds* more, perhaps, which he should be very glad to see interwoven in such a Poem as *this*; but as by much the major part of them are, as he apprehends, *technical*, especially relating to *Physic*, *Surgery*, and *Chymistry*, such as *Cobobation*, *Exsudation*, *Embrocation*, *Mastication*, *Scarification*, *Sublimation*, &c; &c; &c;—he honestly owns his want of Head-piece to *complete* the Poem (according to his *original* design and intention) to the general Satisfaction of his Readers.—He has been as carefull as he could, to admit *no* word, ending in *ation* (except, as before observ'd, the word PHISTICATION, for fun) but what is either *classical*, or in common *use* among Us;—And, therefore, as to the Words, *Flirtation*, *Jobation*, *Botheration*, and such like upstart, new coin'd ones: as they are not, originally, *true Sons* (by *Adoption*, at least) of our *good mother* BRITANNIA, he has accordingly rejected them as the Offspring of *Bastardization*.—He once had it in his thoughts to try if he could not, by his own endeavours, and the help of his Friends, exhaust *our* Language of *all* it's Words, ending in *ation*: But, The L—d help his poor silly head!—before he had added fifty *fresh* Words to the Poem, he could not forbear laughing at himself for as great an *Afs* as his
his

P R E F A C E.

vii

his two wise *Conundrum*-Brothers, *Major Old-Fox* and *Dogberry*, in being so absurd as even to *think* of an Attempt, which upon tryal will be found, perhaps, to have at least equal, if not a greater, difficulty in it than any *one* of the *twelve* Labours of *Hercules*! as there is no *Termination*, in *our* Language, that has such an extensive, and almost endless, variety of Words belonging to it, as *this* now before Us.—His candid and indulgent Readers will be pleas'd to excuse him for pointing out *another* (most extraordinary!) singularity in this Poem, and which he hopes will recommend it to the *Public* Favour;—A Circumstance, not to be met with, perhaps, in a Poem in any *other* Language in the whole World! which is *this*;—“That amidst such a great variety of Words of the *same* Termination, there is but *one* Word that occurs to Them *twice*, throughout the *whole* Poem, and *that* is, *RELATION*, within the *first fifty* Lines”; and even *this* would not have been admitted *twice*, had it not been apply'd in two *different* senses: and, therefore, he hopes it is perfectly allowable.—He has now endeavour'd to serve up at the *Public* Table (by way of a *Christmas* Disfert) his *Pine-Apple*; and, as there is variety of *Constitutions* as well as *Faces* and *Opinions*, if he has but tolerably hit the Palates of his Readers, *in general*, (it being impossible to please *all*) in exhilarat-
ing

ing the Mind this dark, gloomy season, he shall think his time to have been, at least, *innocently*, if not *usefully* spent; a taste of which, after Dinner, will do mighty well with a generous glass of *Tokay*, *Frontinac*, *Burgundy*, *Champagne*, or even honest, sound *Port*, in order to promote *Digestion*, by that *very best* Channel in the world, LAUGHTER!—They will find it, therefore, absolutely necessary to be brought to Table, soon after the Cloth is taken away, by his *Grace's* or *Lordship's* Gentleman or Butler who value their Masters healths—to relieve the *Statesman* from the weight of *Public Affairs*, and the Woman of *Quality* while She is tortur'd under the hands of *Monsieur Friseur*: the *Merchant* and *Citizen* when They go to their Country Houses, and the honest *Tradesman* behind the Counter, when his Shop is free from Customers. Nay--The *Editor* will not think his little Poem at all in disgrace, if he should hear that it was found in the *Steward's* Room, (at any Nobleman's or Bishop's) *Butler's* Pantry, *Mrs. Abigail's* Dressing-room, or even snapt up in an hurry by Mr. John the *Footman*, when her Ladyship's Coach is waiting at the Door for an airing in Hyde-park, the New-road, or the environs of the City;

For *Books*, like *Dishes*, various Palates strike,
Since All must eat, tho' All may'nt *taste alike*.

T H E

T H E
O D D I T Y,
A P O E M,
BEING A LOVE LETTER.

MY DEAR BETTY,

T H E great *Reputation*,
Which you have in this *Nation*,
And another *Qualification*,
Which raises my *Admiration*,
To a sort of *Transformation*,
But needs no *Amplification*,

B

Gives

Gives me a strong *Invitation*,
 With great *Acceleration*,
 To become your *Relation*,
 By a close *Combination*,
 Yet without *Derogation*
 Of your Virtue, by *Fornication*,
 As will appear, "of Banns by *Proclamation*,"
 By which, you see, you soon will change
 your MAIDEN-*Appellation*.
 Then, according to the best *Regulation*,
 For our *Cohabitation*,
 By Love's *Sanctification*,
 And through the Journey of Life our fur-
 ther *Destination* :
 Without *Hesitation*,

But

But with all due *Deliberation*,
 After our Marriage-Celebration,
 We'll make *Preparation*,
 By our mutual *Donation*,
 To cause a *Circulation*,
 Of every *Generation*,—
 Whereof the *Derivation*,
 Would be a *Stagnation*,
 By preventing an *Augmentation*,
 And so hinder the *Multiplication*,
 Of our own *Propagation*:
 Without which, the *Creation*,
 In it's yearly *Rotation*,
 By such a *Negation*,
 Would want human *Vegetation*,

And would come to (what is terrible to
think) a mere *Annihilation*!—

Now if this my *Intimation*,
Or rather *Supplication*,
By my *Pre-determination*,
Does meet with *Acceptation*,
By your kind *Approbation*,
Without any *Stipulation*,
Which will be a most sure *Ratification*;
It will lay an *Obligation*,
By giving me a *Sensation*,
Beyond the Power of *Relation*,
And cause a *Renovation*
Over my whole *Corporation*,
With as great an *Alteration*

Of Spirits, by *Exhilaration*,
As we are told all England felt at King
Charles's *Restoration*.—

But to continue my *Narration*,
By a pleasing, just *Gradation* ;
Pray take into *Consideration*,
How **genteel* my *Occupation* !
My †*pleasant Habitation*,
So smart with *Decoration*,
And *delightful Situation* !
Of which, on *Examination*,
The Bearer of this *Translation*,
Whom I sent by *Deputation*,

* A *poor* Poet, almost as bad as a *Pick-pocket*.

† A *Garret* in Grub-street, up *Five* Pair of Stairs.

On the King's † *Inauguration*,
 Will give you *Demonstration*,
 (Without any *Argumentation*)
 That I'm yours by *Appropriation* :
 And answer every *Interrogation*,
 Without mental *Reservation*,
 Or the least *Deviation*,
 Or Colour of *Prevarication*,
 Being void of *Diffimulation*,
 Or any *Affectation*,
 So will answer my *Representation*,
 For you will find in him no *Renunciation* :
 And thus, I hope, you'll soon come to a
Determination :

† Oct. 25.

Though

Though if you doubt, pray put him to
his *Purgation*,

As at any Time he's ready to make his solemn
Attestation.—

Of a genteel *Education*,

A Man of *Penetration*,

And much given to *Exploration* :

He's of a good *Inclination*,

And punctual at an *Assignation*,

Especially if there's any thing to do in the
case of *Osculation* ;—

Of great *Contemplation*,

Much inclin'd to *Meditation*,

And, therefore, in my poor *Arbitration*,

He

He is so much the more proper for this
nice *Negotiation*.—

He understands *Navigation*,
As also *Fortification*,
And of Pendulums the *Oscillation*,
With the rules of *Circumvallation*,
And storming a Town without *Capitulation*:
Though this may be of no great *Signification*,
As he seldom goes out of his own *Plantation*,
Being no great Friend, I know, to much
Peregrination.—

He denys *Transubstantiation*,
And *Super-erogation*,
As being of *Faith* and *Works* a *Profanation*!

As

As also the absurd Doctrine of Angels

Invocation ;

He laughs at the Pope's *Canonization*,

Or, what is sometimes vainly called, his

Beatification.—

A Man of such *Application*

To Things by *Investigation*,

That he finding such *Recreation*,

Grudges himself a *Cessation*,

E'en to take *Sustentation*,

For his Health's *Preservation*,

Which to me is a *Provocation*,

And raises my *Indignation*,

So as to cause between us much *Altercation*,

To see that One of his *Observation*,

C

Has

Has no better way of *Cogitation*,
 Than to neglect a *Participation*
 Of his daily *Alimentation*,
 To which his Studies ever should be in
 great *Sub-ordination*,—
 He's a d---l at *Verfification*,
 By a natural *Stimulation*,
 Without any *Variation*,
 All in one *Termination*,
 As this (in which he has help'd) is an.

Indication :

Or rather *Illustration*,
 Being done at MY *Instigation*,
 But on HIS Side, I assure you, with great
 Expostulation.—

He's

He's so well read in the *Reformation*,
 You'd swear 'twas by *Inspiration* :
 He has also read a Book on *Justification*,
 Which led him to another on *Glorification*,
 Having to it, he says, no bad *Dedication* :
 And another on *Divination*,
 As also *Pre-destination* :
 Besides one on *Reprobation*,
 All which seeming as dark as St. John's
 Revelation,
 So, I think, they can no ways serve at all
 the Cause of *Edification*.—
 He has read another good one, he says, on
 Regeneration,
 Together with a small Tract on *Reparation*,

Without which, in case of *Wrong*, it gives
no *Salvation*,

But always with this (*if* in your Power)
Limitation,

Or, till when, by giving a Bond of *Indem-*
nification:

Which, if *not* done, will be no small *Im-*
putation:

So that if you are but willing, by your
Co-operation,

You may be very safe from the terror of
Damnation,

And this may easily be done by Man, in
whatsoever *Station*.—

He

He can give you the History of the POPISH

** Conjuratation,*

And will fully fet before you *honest* OLIVER's

Ufurpation,

Together with an Account of KING JAMES's

Abdication,

With the whole Narrative of the SEVEN

BISHOPS *Abjuration,*

Not forgetting the strange Affair of the

WARMING-PAN *Subornation,*

With the vile Plot for KING WILLIAM's

Affassination,

(Which of all *true* Britons, deserves the

Exsecration!)

* Nov. 5.

And

And also what occasion'd the Act of
Toleration,

With most of the Remarkables under the
JEWISH Dispensation:

Particularly that of the Sun's *Declination:*

Or rather, I should have said, his *Retro-*
gradation,

At the Time when HEZEKIAH fear'd his
Exspiration,

Of which I could readily give you a
Quotation,

Of his Sicknefs being stopt by a *FIG-Fo-*
mentation,

When his Abscess was brought to a full
Suppuration:

But

But as 'tis so well known, it wants no particular *Citation*.—

That he is good at an *Oration*,

By his Vocal *Modulation*,

As also *Punctuation*,

Is beyond all *Confutation* :

Having the general *Acclamation*

For proper *Pronunciation*,

And a most happy *Articulation*,

To speak a *Declamation*,

He also well observes Case, Number, Tense,

and Mood, and every *Conjugation*.—

He has committed some Follies thro' an

heedless *Imitation*,

For

For which he deserves, at least, a *Flagellation*,

Or rather, I think, a greater *Castigation*;

But as they have caus'd in him a severe
Deploration,

He has, since that, made an ample *Recantation*,

And so hopes this will be a most complete
and just *Expiation*.—

He tells me he never had the least *Emulation*,
To think of the Pythagorean *Transmigration*,
Or, of base Metals into Gold, the *Transmutation*:

To judge of Politics (or of Stocks the
Fluctuation)

And

And so he never goes to the County-No-
mination;

He is puzzled most strangely at the AME-
RICAN *Taxation*,

As likewise their stoppage of *Non-Importation*:

So leaves it to the Rulers in *Administration*,
Who, 'tis fear'd will find Work enough for
their Spring-*Operation*:

Tho' he'll better judge of this at the Par-
liament's *Prorogation*:

He nevers troubles himself about the Earth's
Gravitation,

Or the Time when she's in her *Elongation*.

He does not want to account for the Stars
Scintillation,

And quite in the Dark, when they are in
Occultation,

Much less to cudgel his Brains about the
Distance of any *Constellation*,

D

Nor

Nor ever to observe even it's *Approximation*,
But minds what is lower, his Mother's
Gravidation.

From whence he's very sensible, he says, he
had his *Derivation*.—

He strongly insists on *Remuneration*,
By our Foes for their Insult and vile *De-*
predation,

And this to be done without *Retardation*,
As he imagines, with others, that *Depopulation*,
Without longer Delay, or *Procrastination*,
Is the way to compel them to make *Com-*
pensation,

For what they took before the War's *De-*
claration,

Which, had it held longer, had brought
much *Devastation*,

And, no doubt, in Time, of many Things
made great *Dilapidation*.—

This,

This, he tells me, occasions incredible *Speculation*,

At it's not being put in immediate *Agitation*:

For as he now and then attends an *Association*,

And is one of the first at a grand *Consultation*,

He readily hears all their *Communication* :—

Sometimes he calls in for a Bottle at “The
Salutation,”

Where the Wine is well cork'd to prevent
Evaporation,

And warranted to be without *Adulteration* :

His Colour, at coming out, is a good pretty
Carnation,

Tho' I ne'er knew him drink to *Intoxication*,

As that might cause strange *Gesticulation*,

Of which you might think the above an
Insinuation,

But really he is not of that *Denomination*,

As he never exceeds a moderate *Elevation*,

Which, he says, when he's griev'd, gives
him much *Consolation*,

Or, when much fatigu'd at his nocturnal
Lucubration,

But when he's forely non-plu's'd, it is like
Illumination.—

Now observe, of Excess this is no *Vindication*,
Of which I have heard him speak with
Detestation,

Saying, he'd vote for it's utter *Extirpation*,
By not only putting Men into an *Infatuation*,
(Or, as I may well say, into a sort of *Fa-*
scination,)

But also of Body and Mind 'tis such a
Debilitation,

As, by Degrees, brings on a total *Enervation*,
And of a Train of Follies is a most sure
Initiation;—

During which, they sometimes meet with
a *Dislocation*,

Which, if not soon prevented by *Corroboration*,
(And this will best be done by *Rectification*)

May, in a short Time, end in a *Mortification*,
And so out of the House will cause their

Exportation;

And now by all just and reasonable *Com-
putation*,

The Man observing his approaching *Se-
paration*,

May, perhaps, be under a mighty *Palpitation*,
How of his Sins to make a *Palliation* :

So puts up an Earnest and short *Ejaculation*,

For Mercy, Pardon, and *Reconciliation*,

For each Sin and Transgression, with its re-
spective *Aggravation*,

That he may be easy at the general *Con-
flagration*,

Which,

Which, of all Things here, below, no doubt,
will be the *Consummation* !—

But as to my Friend, a Man of great
Estimation,

A few Words of him more, as a short *Re-iteration*,

(Or, as I may say, a *Re-capitulation*,)

And this I will do, without *Exaggeration*,

As then of him you'll have before you a
complete *Delineation* ;—

He is a mortal Enemy to all *Calumniation* :

When he gives, as he often does, some very
good *Exhortation*,

Which is commonly had at the first *Sollicitation*,

He advises in all Things to avoid *Precipitation*,

'Tho' on pressing Occasions he approves of
Festination :

Not-

Notwithstanding of the Spirits it causes a

Fermentation :

But, above all, to oppose every Kind of

Litigation :—

He speaks, with the Gravity of a Bishop at

Consecration,

When he is giving you an Account of a

Windfor-Installation :

But is so much offended at *Vociferation,*

By it's causing in the Ear such a *Re-*

verberation,

As it brings his poor Head almost to a

Vibration,

That, he says, whoever *will* be so deserves

Excoriation.—

When he errs, he is *first* in his own *Accusation,*

Which, no doubt, of his Fault is a great

Mitigation,

And makes him more ready at *Re-crimination;*

He's

He's for doing his Business without *Molestation*,
And, when at his Studies, (which is chiefly
Compilation)

Of all Things in the World, he dislikes
Avocation,

Which, I think, of his Character, is no
Extenuation,

But quite the reverse, a very strong *Re-*
commendation.

His Age, is just THIRTY, by his own
Calculation,

Being born on the Day of * JOHN the BAP-
TIST's *De-collation* :

If any say he's older, it is a false *Allegation*,
As this I would testify, on *Adjuration* ;

He has been in the Country since the Har-
vest-Vacation,

* Aug. 29.

By

By Advice of his Doctor, for *Inoculation*,
Which has redden'd his Face by a great
Inflammation,

And looks as tho' giv'n to *In-ebriation* :

But what he has done since, I've no *Prog-*
nostication,

Unless settling his Affairs, which were under
Sequestration,

(By which he has made such an *Accum-*
modation,

As to have happily caus'd a quick *Liquidation*)

Or drinking Goat's Whey for his Blood's
Purification,

Which is reckon'd a good Purgative to pre-
vent *Constipation* :

Or riding on Horseback for his Life's *Pro-*
longation,

Tho' his Horse is much given to a foul
Titubation,

E

Which

Which throws them both into a great
Trepidation,

But this is not amiss, by keeping up a freer
Perspiration.—

He came back to my House in the Week
of *Rogation,*

Tho' of his Arrival I'd no *Notification,*
As brisk as a *Freshman* on his *Matriculation,*
Or even as an Emperor on his *Coronation:*

Then, after an hearty and short *Congra-*
tulation,

And giving him a glass of my double *Dis-*
tillation,

Well known for its being without *Sophis-*
tication,

(Or, as my honest Friend *NAB says,
PHISTICATION)

* Abel Drugger in the Alchymist.

We

We had about two or three Hours *Confabulation*,

When of his Travels in his late *Emigration*,

He gave me a humourous *Coagmentation*,

And yet in a nice *Concatenation*,

Which I heard without Trouble, or *Defatigation*:

For he speaks as he thinks, and hates
Ostentation,

Tho' a wild Rogue did say, nay, he *swore*
to his *Affirmation*,

That Part what he said was *Æquivocation*;

Now, tho' *Swearing* is used by Men of ev'ry
Vocation,

It is chiefly by those of less *Valuation*:

For of Good Manners 'tis not only a *Contamination*,

But also allow'd as a plain *Violation*,

And, therefore, by all good and wise men
should meet with *Excommunication*.—

Sometimes to myself he gives Hints of
Emendation,

Which ev'ry one should practice in this
State of *Probation* :

He often insists on the Mind's *Cultivation*,

Says, " Virtue is a Substance of lasting
" *Duration*,

" But Vice is the Shadow—-all Folly and
" *Frustration* !

" And, therefore, wishes it's *Extermination*,

" As it is justly held a vile *Abomination*."

Thus he talk'd on the Road as we came
from the † *Visitation*,

Where the Bishop had held a very large
Ordination,

Of which, in my Pray'er Book I took an
Annotation,

† Being Churchwarden of his Parish.

This,

This, hereafter, I may shew you for *Mani-
festation,*

If the Moths and Worms han't caus'd *De-
solation,*

In making it too subject to *Laceration,*

By marring the Leaf's *Configuration:*

For I've never look'd at it since the † *An-
nunciation,*

But once, when I read the Marriage-Sol-
lemnization,

Of which, the very Thoughts give me such
a *Titillation,*

And the sweet Prospect, tho' distant, such
an *Exultation,*

That I've thrown down my Pen, thro' a
great *Cachinnation:*

And, therefore, as I want some *Relaxation,*

† March 25.

I'll

I'll go into the Fields and fetch a good stout

Per-ambulation.—

But to break off the *Continuation*,

(Without any *Interpolation*,

Or, more properly, *Mutilation*)

Of this long *Declamation*,

In my Friend's *Commendation*:

(Which wants no *Elucidation*)

Thro' whose kind *Mediation*,

I hope, by this Free-Will *Oblation*

To avoid your *Disapprobation*,

And get the *Confirmation*

Of your sweet *Conversation*,

Which, as it exceeds all *Explanation*,

So, of our Love will be the *Redintegration*:

And, for which, without *Disputation*,

I have as great a *Veneration*,

(As the *Jews* for those *Bishops* who pass'd
their *Naturalization*)

And

And so pleasing a *Commemoration*,
 That it borders on *Adoration* ;
 And, now let me give you *Information*,
 That I'm enjoying you by *Anticipation*,
 Or if you'll have a plainer *Interpretation*,
 I'm present with you, in *Imagination*,
 Which you may be sure is a pleasant *Gra-*
tification ;

But, after all, it would be a *Vexation*,
 Almost of my Senses to a *Deprivation* ;
 So far as to alter all *Pulsation*,
 At least of Appetite to bring on a *Prostration*,
 And put me into as great a *Consternation*,
 As tho' I was seized with a *Salivation*,
 Should I be baulk'd of my *Expectation*,
 Of your accepting my Heart's *Presentation* :
 Nay—it would be a greater *Tribulation*,
 Than any Kind of *Transportation*,
 Or even Corporal *Amputation*,

And

And would put me under a *Temptation*,
 In a Fit of *Desperation*,
 Of seeking *Alleviation*
 From my grievous *Lamentation*,
 By a dismal *Perpetration*,
 Either by *Inundation*,
 Or excessive *Potation*,
 (Or, perhaps, *Strangulation*)
 By which *Suffocation*,
 Of Life there would be a sad *Abbreviation*,
 As this would cause it's utter *Defalcation*,
 And to myself a *Vilification*,
 Whereby I should incur universal *Con-*
demnation.—

Now (of Facts after all this *Aggregation*)
 In hopes of your *Commiseration*,
 And Compliance with my *Obsecration*,
 I am, with the strongest *Asseveration*,
 And deepest *Imprecation*,

(If

(If guilty of *Adulation*)

With the greatest *Delectation*,

And without the least *Alienation*,

Or even wish of *Emancipation*,

Or Colour of *Mutation*,

With the most profound *Humiliation*,

(Begging Pardon for *Interlineation*)

Your's DEAR BESS! till Death, by the
most solemn *Protestation*.—

FRANK HOPEWELL.

Grub-street,
Christmas-Holidays
1776.

P.S. I beg you'd have this in your own
Conservation,

Left a *Printer* should see it, and make *Pub-*
lication,

Or that Rogue TANT'RABOBUS, it's *Re-*
publication;

For if once in the News it should get *Pro-*
mulgation,

F

Of

Of Buyers there would be such a strange
Complication,

That th' Apprentice wanting Time for a
short *Oscitation,*

Or, at least, now and then, for a little
Respiration,

Would throw himself into such *Exasperation,*
As to curse the *Author* of such an odd
Accumulation:

Which should they find out, it would give
me great *Perturbation,*

And hurry my Spirits beyond all *Moderation,*
Left it should be thought a *Mis-interpretation:*

As I should not only be flouted by a whole
Congregation,

But, perhaps, by them also get a small
Exaltation;

So, I hope, of my Name you'll make an
Obliteration,

Which of my last Wish will be a *Consolidation:*
And *this* Line of my *Letter* (to kiss your sweet
Hand!) shall be the PERORATION.—

Where also may be had the following Pieces,

I. The *six* PANEGYRICS, or SERMONS in honour of the *six* Great Festivals, (viz. *Christmas-Day, Good-Friday, Easter and Ascension-Days, Whitsunday, and Trinity-Sunday*) translated from the *Greek* of that most famous *Father* of the Church, St. CHRYSOSTOM, almost FOURTEEN HUNDRED Years old, and never in our Language till Christmas 1774.—SIXTH Edition—Price of the whole Sett only 3s. 6d.—Almost EIGHT THOUSAND Copies have been sold since Christmas 1774.

II. The DUELLIST, a *Sermon*. Price 6d.

III. O TEMPORA! O MORES! or “The best *New-Year’s Gift* for A PRIME MINISTER.” A *Sermon*, Dedicated to LORD NORTH. Price 1s.—SIXTH Edition.—Almost THREE THOUSAND of this have been sold.

IV. EPIGRAMS of MARTIAL, &c; translated from the *Latin*, imitated, adapted, and addrest to The KING and QUEEN, NOBILITY, CLERGY, and GENTRY. Price only 2s. 6d.

